

Message Text

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ACTION ARA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 PM-03 NSC-05 SP-02 SS-15 CIAE-00

DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 AID-05

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R 271645Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY LIMA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4512

C O N F I D E N T I A L LIMA 2533

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, OAS, PE

SUBJECT: OAS SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION

REF: STATE 63596 AND 65408

1. IN COURSE OF WIDE-RANGING INFORMAL DISCUSSION MARCH 26 WITH AMBASSADOR JORGE DEL CAMPO, FONOFF DIRECTOR OF INTERNATIONAL CONFERENCES AND ORGANIZATIONS, DCM RAISED SUBJECT OF OAS SECRETARY GENERAL ELECTION. DIRECTOR ASSERTED NEITHER SAPENA NOR GOMEZ WOULD BE ELECTED SINCE THEY NOW HAVE THE MAXIMUM VOTES THEY COULD HOPE TO RECEIVE.

2. THE DANGER, IN THE DIRECTOR'S VIEW, IS THAT ORGILA MIGHT GET A BANDWAGON ROLLING EVEN RHOUGH HE NOW HAS ONLY THE DECLARED SUPPORT OF PANAMA. DEL CAMPO ASSERTED ORFILA IS LITTLE BETTER THAN A SOCIAL BUTTERFLY WHO WOULD DO NO MORE AS OAS SYG THAN ATTEMPT TO MAEK PAN AMERICAN UNION THE SOCIAL CENTER OF WASHINGTON. ORFILA, HE SAID, IS SPENDING SOME OF HIS PERSONAL FORTUNE TO ATTEMPT TO PROMOTE HIS CANDIDACY, AND HAS SUPPORT IN COSTA RICA, FOR EXAMPLE, BECAUSE OF JOINT BUSINESS VENTURES THERE.

3. ALL THIS ANALYSIS LED TUP TO DIRECTOR'S STATEMENT THAT PERU "IS GOING TO" PUT FORWARD GARCIA BEDOYA CANDIDACY. (DEL CAMPO THUS WENT BEYOND FONMIN DE LA FLOR'S REMARKS TO PRESS THAT PERU WOULD NOMINATE GARCIA BEDOYA AT AN OPPORTUNE TIME.)

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DEL CAMPO URGED THAT USG CONSIDER SUPPORT FOR GARCIA BEDOYA AND THAT

U.S. SHOULD ABANDON ITS PRESENT STANCE OF NEUTRALITY
VIS-A-VIS SYG QUESTION WHILE AWAITING EMERGENCE OF LATIN AMERICAN
CONSENSUS.
DEAN

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NNN

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